



die Zeitung

Newsletter of the BMW Motorcycle Club
of Hampton Roads, VA

01 Apr 06

www.bmwchr.org

Editor's Ramblings:

by Gary Shanafelt

We should dedicate the entire newsletter to Dan and Donna Franklin (and their domestic help-Brenda Martin) for a GREAT Cabin Fever breakfast and ride! Get the details on pg 2.

Marvin Sylvest will lead the ride to Morton's; get the "hot oil" on pg 3. Also on pg 3 we find out more about Jeff Munn than we really wanted to know. On that same page, Herb Gill checks in with comments on old classics verses new technology.

I could not constrain our upcoming events to that puny little box on this page. Look for an expanded calendar on pg 4.

For you Internet Junkies, Steve Anderson from Morton's has included a link to our web-site on their web page. Give Steve a big Tidewater "Gracias" when you see him in a couple weeks.

With a plastic electrical tie, put one of those paper binder clips on your handlebars. It's a great place to store change a small bills to pay you toll across the Coleman Bridge without holding up traffic while you dig out your 65¢.



Follow Don and Bonnie to
Adventure BMW Open House-08 Apr 06

President's Corner:

by Larry Martin

First off, thanks to Pete Hahn for the March minutes. What a great talent!

More new members!! Gary and Tricia Davis come to us with a free year's dues offer signed by Jim Richardson a few years ago. I think they were coached on how to join when they bought a new BMW. I expect another new BMW owner to join us, invited by Dan Franken. They are old Navy friends. Richard (Rick) Bainbridge, call-sign "Ouzo". I'll bet that's another story.

Has anyone recruited a guest speaker? This is a game anyone can play.

Between Owners News and Airhead Newsletter, there are enough events to attend; it would be hard to get to them all – even just local and bordering states. There are camp-overs, tech days, meet for lunch, flea market @ Bob's and two open houses coming up. These offer plenty of opportunities to ride and meet fellow BMW enthusiasts.

Dan Franken has returned to Iowa to spend time with his Father. This time, he drove a BMW vs. riding one. Best wishes, Dan, during these difficult times.

Welcome back Daytona travelers. I understand Marvin is finished with his acting gig for now. Maybe he will grow his beard back so that we can recognize him.

'See you at the April meeting. *Larry*

Upcoming Events:

(See the expanded calendar on pg 4)

Cabin Fever Ride

by Gary Shanafelt

As we got ready to ride over to Pungo for the Cabin Fever breakfast, the English would call the weather “Bracing”, but with my thermal long underwear, lined duck-hunting trousers, water proof riding pants, Gerbing heated jacket, and winter riding coat, I felt pretty good...until my wife opened the garage door and I had second thoughts. “Too late!” she said. I was committed. By the time I got to Dan and Donna Franklin’s house, I had the rheostat on the Gerbing turned up to where you could bake a turkey with it. But with this crowd:



For those unfortunate ones that did not make it to the Cabin Fever breakfast, you missed a great exhibition of how to do it right! Dan and Donna had thought through our needs very well. After entertaining Dan’s A-4 squadron mates over the years, Donna said turning the house over to a mere motorcycle gang was nothing. Thirteen bikes and about sixteen riders showed up promptly at “Oh-nine-hundred” to be met with a hot cup of coffee and a well disciplined kitchen staff headed by Donna and her faithful sidekick, Brenda Martin. You don’t dilly-dally when you are on a schedule like the Franklins had lain out and if you walked away from the kitchen hungry; it was your own fault.



Dan gave a quick but complete “rider’s briefing” covering the route and emergency procedures and a AAA approved “Trip Tick” was handed out then it was time to crank engines.

Even though the weather turned out to be prima (for February) most everyone is looking forward to doing the trip again in the spring.



Ride To Morton's

By Marvin Sylvest

Yes, folks, it's that time of year again. Spring has sprung, so it must be time for the annual ride to Morton's BMW, in Fredricksburg, for Open House. We can expect the usual large crowd of riders, lots of things on sale, demo rides, a band, and lunch.

We will meet at the Burger King on J. Clyde Morris Blvd (Rt 17), just south of I-64. Departure time is 8:00 a.m., and we will take the same route as last year. The ride up will take about three hours, placing us at Morton's around 11:00. That will give us plenty of time to enjoy the festivities and return home before dark. Though the route north is set, the ride home has several options. I usually take Rt. 17.

Please have a full tank of fuel when we start. Since we will be crossing the Coleman Bridge, plan to have toll money available. The toll has increased to sixty-five cents, so a dollar bill will probably be the easiest to handle. I will plan two rest stops on the way to our destination. Printed directions for those who want them.

This will be a comfortable ride over some roads that seem made for motorcycles. Plan to join us.

Marvin



Technology Advances

by Herb Gill

Jim Richardson was telling me recently about an ongoing electrical problem he was having with his K- bike. After more work than I would have ever wanted to put into an electrical problem, it's fixed now and he has the satisfaction of solving the mystery. This started me thinking about bike problems that I have faced and how I felt afterwards.

One Sunday I was out riding in WV when my /5 just quit running. I coasted into a car wash and got out my tools and spare parts. No spark at the plugs so I checked the points. No problem there, so I installed a spare condenser I had on hand and she fired right up. Man did I feel good about myself!

(Cont pg 4)

Technology Advances (Cont)

The day I picked up my new R100S a guy at the shop who was having his /2 fixed asked me what I was going to do if the electronic ignition went out on me. I told him that I just hoped it never would. (It didn't.) A lot of other things that had bugged me on the /5 didn't happen either. In fact I found that with just a little preventive maintenance a lot never went wrong.

When I bought my R1100Roadster, a friend of mine, who is a confirmed airhead owner, asked me what I was going to do if the battery went dead or some electrical gremlin crept into the bike. I said that I would take care of that when it happened. For the 17,000 miles that I got to ride that one I had one dead battery, which I just charged, and tires which I let the shop take care of. I never liked changing tires on any bike.

Yes, each bike was more reliable than the one before it. They became more complicated as well. This is called advancements and with these advancements comes complexity. That is the price we pay so that we don't have to carry spare parts departments around with us.

Right about now Jim is still feeling good about solving that great K- Bike mystery.

Ride safe,
Herb Gill

Expanded Calendar

Adventure BMW Open House- 8th Apr

10am to 4pm. Have your picture taken on the new HP2. Lots of bargains. Rick will be giving bikes away at rock bottom prices, Alex is going to fix anything you can possibly have wrong, and Tim is going to sell you a new Arai below cost!

Mortons BMW Open House- 14-15 Apr

Friday 7-9pm: Helge Petersen will present his "Best of World Touring" presentation. It's free but call for reservations 540-891-9844.

Saturday: 9 am - 4 pm --

All day -- Discounts on parts & accessories, Motolights installed while you wait, book signings by Dale Coyner and Dan Bard. During the day - Tire plugging lessons in the Service Department (check with them for times)

10:30 - 11:30 am -- Packing your bike for a long trip, with Helge Pedersen

11:00 am - 1:00 pm -- Live music from the Dixie Power Trio zydeco band

12 noon -- Virginia BBQ lunch for the first 500 (remember to register!)

2:00 pm -- Minor door prize winners posted (must be present to win)

2:30 pm -- Major door prize winners drawn (must be present to win)

4:00 pm -- End of open house, have a safe ride home!

Motorcycle Camp Help Week-14-23 Apr

Camp for free and help Brent Hollowell get the campground back in shape. Campground is located near Wilkesboro, NC. Check out the details on our website under "EVENTS" or call Brent at 252-261-3954.

Lightening Awareness Ride 30 Apr

Rendezvous at Adventure BMW 09:00am for registration and coffee, 10:00am to start the ride. \$10 donation for riders, \$5 donation for passengers. Ride will terminate in Courtland where food will be available and a 50-50 drawing will be featured. This could be BIG! **Standby to assist.**